

CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions and listings.

1. (Previously Presented) Floor for a cargo compartment of an aircraft, comprising
at least one floor element;
a functional unit for a cargo transportation means attached to said floor element; and
at least one floor beams supporting said at least one floor elements and adapted for connection to a skin of the aircraft, said floor element being rigidly connected to said at least one floor beam and thereby forming a prefabricated floor module adapted for installation in the aircraft.
2. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said functional unit is mounted on said floor beam of the floor module.
3. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of an electrical control device and a mechanical control device for controlling said functional unit is connected to said functional units.
4. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to claim 1, wherein a transmission socket for power transmission is attached to said floor module such that said transmission socket can be connected to a complementarily shaped transmission connectors provided on an adjacent

floor module.

5. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein sections of at least one of cable channels, hydraulic conduits, water conduits, electrical leads and other conducting devices are provided in the floor module and are adapted such that they can link to similar conducting devices in an adjacent floor module to form an overall conducting system when the floor modules are installed in the aircraft.
6. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 5, wherein the conducting device comprises branches that provide a connection to predetermined locations on the floor element or the functional units.
7. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein assembly elements are provided on said ~~the~~ floor modules to provide a mechanically secure connection to adjacent floor modules during or after installation of said floor modules in the aircraft.
8. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor element defines at least one inspection opening that is closed by a floor-element section and that is provided to permit access to a bilge space below said floor element.
9. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 8, wherein the floor-element section is fixed to said floor element by means

of a fast-action closure devices.

10. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor elements comprises a sealing device adapted to create a tight seal between a space defined above and a space defined below said the floor element.
11. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein a leakproof connecting element is provided and is adapted for the leakproof connection of said floor element to at least one of an adjacent floor element said skin of the aircraft.
12. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein a drainage device is provided to conduct fluids out of the cargo compartment and to transfer said fluid into a corresponding drainage device-of an adjacent floor module.
13. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said the floor module comprises at least one floor panel-on which a person can walk.
14. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein the floor module comprises at least one insulation device adapted to insulate a lower portion of the fuselage of said aircraft.
15. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 14,

wherein said insulation device is disposed below said floor elements in the region of said supporting beam near said skin of said aircraft.

16. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of a bulkhead and a fixation device for the attachment of a bulkhead thereto.
17. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 16, wherein said bulkheads are comprised at least in part of a ballistically-resistant material.
18. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of an EE racks, a mounting device for electronic components, a fixation device for electronic components and a connecting devices for electronic components.
19. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of a water tank, a waste-water tanks, a fixation device and a connecting devices for said tanks.
20. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of a lining elements and a mounting device for said elements, for lining the cargo compartment.
21. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1,

wherein said floor modules are constructed and are fastened to said skin of the aircraft in such a way that after installation in the aircraft they can be removed again in an arbitrary sequence.

22. (Previously Presented) Method for assembly of a floor for a cargo-compartment of an aircraft, comprising the following steps:
 - providing a floor element;
 - providing a floor beam adapted for connection to a skin of the aircraft;
 - attaching said to said floor beam such that the floor elements together with the supporting elements form a prefabricated floor modules that can be handled as a unit;
 - lifting said a floor module into said cargo compartment;
 - fastening said the floor beam to said skin of the aircraft; and
 - repeating said above steps until the floor of the cargo compartment has been completed.
23. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 22, comprising the additional step of mounting a functional unit for a cargo transportation means on the floor element before the latter is lifted into the cargo compartment.
24. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claims 22 wherein a connecting step ~~that~~ follows the step of lifting into the cargo compartment in which at least one of
 - control devices to control functional units;
 - conduction devices such as cable channels, hydraulic conduits, water conduits, electrical leads and similar conduction devices; and

drainage devices for conducting fluids out of the cargo compartment are connected to corresponding control devices, conducting devices and drainage devices associated with an adjacent floor module that has been fixed within the cargo compartment.

25. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 24, wherein at least parts of the connecting step is performed prior to the final fixation of the supporting elements to said skin of the aircraft.